

 shôjo

B.B. ExplosionTM



STORY AND ART BY **Yasue Imai**

3

VIZ Graphic Novel

B.B. Explosion.

3



Story and Art by
Yasue Imai



RYO TAKAYA



MIYO TAKAHARA



CESAR

SYNOPSIS

EVERY TALENTED GIRL IN OKINAWA WANTS TO GO TO THE ACTORS SCHOOL. AND AIRI ACTUALLY MADE IT! EVERYDAY SHE WORKS HARD AT HER LESSONS ALONG WITH HER FRIENDS YŪ AND YUMI. AND DON'T FORGET THAT CUTE BOY, ISSA. OF DA PUMP. . . BUT HE LEFT FOR TOKYO AND STARDOM. AIRI PROMISED HERSELF THAT SHE TOO WOULD BECOME A STAR.

AFTER SOLOING AT AN ACTORS SCHOOL CONCERT, AIRI IS PICKED UP BY THE FAMOUS PRODUCER MS. TAKAYA AND IS SET TO BEGIN LESSONS IN TOKYO. BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTER SHE HEARS FROM HER LESSON-MATE, MIYO, THAT ONLY ONE OF THEM CAN GO ON TO MAKE THEIR DEBUT?

B.B.

EXPLOSION

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AIRI ISHIKAWA



YŪ YAMADA



YUMI KŌCHI

B.B. Explosion

B.B. Explosion Special Feature: Illustration Gallery

Message from the Okinawa Actors School



B.B. Explosion Vol. 3 Shojo Edition

Story and Art by Yasue Imai

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THINK
YOU'RE
A BIG
DEAL
JUST
BECAUSE
YOU'RE
FROM
THE OGINAWA
ACTORS
SCHOOL!

I'LL
NEVER
LOSE
TO THE
LIKES
OF
YOU!



















BECAUSE
I SAID FOR
THE LOVE
GIFT!

I GOT
STOPPED
WHEN
I GOT
TO
THE
MODEL...



FOR THE
LOVE GIFT, IF
NOT BECAUSE
YOU WANT TO
BE A MODEL?



BUT
I'M NOT
A
MODEL...

AND
KEEP
GETTING
PISSED
OFF!

BECAUSE
I'M
WANTED
TO
BE
A
MODEL
ALL
THE
TIME,
AND
THE
SCHOOL
AND
MY
CHILDHOOD
FRIENDS
AND
WOMEN
WANT...



I'M
NOT
SAYING
IT'S
ALWAYS
THE
ACTRESS
HERE...

I'M
NOT
SAYING
IT'S
ALWAYS
THE
ACTRESS
HERE...



WHY?

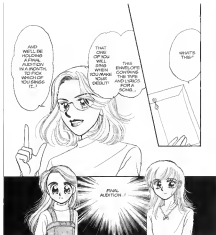


BUT
I'M
NOT
SAYING
IT'S
ALWAYS
THE
ACTRESS
HERE...



BUT...

YOU
GIVE
ME
A
REAL
HARD
TOO
DON'T
YOU...



YOU'LL HAVE JUST ONE CHANCE!



PRETEND YOU'RE AT A LIVE CONCERT

THANK YOU.

OH, LET'S START WITH PINK.

GOING INTO THE MUSIC NOW



ARE YOU CRAZY?

HE'S COMING DOWN WITH A SLIGHT COOLD.

HACHOO!



I DON'T KNOW BUT...

WELL, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, IT'S...



TWO OF YOU, PLEASE?



PLEASE?

AND IT'S THANKS TO YOU, ARE...



I REALLY LOVE THIS SONG IT MADE ME HAPPY JUST LISTENING TO IT IT'S A FEELING FOR ME

ABOUT A YEAR LATER

LIKE
WHEN I
LISTEN
TO YU
SINGING!!

HER
SINGING IS
EXCITING!!

OMG
FLAT!

THAT WAS
INCREDIBLE!

RIGHT?
IT WAS
GREAT!

THANKS

NOW SHE'S
SO GOOD SHE'S
REALLY INTO
THE MUSIC!



FLAT!

IS THAT A
COOL
GIRL
GET?

YES
YES
YES

FLAT!



AND
HEART-
POUNDING
SONS!

IT'S A
REALLY
HAPPY...

HOW
CAN
I
FEEL
IT?

THIS IS
HIGH SCHOOL
BUT IT?

APRIL

AND
HAPPY IS
GREAT!
AND
ONLY
SPECIAL
PEOPLE
CAN FEEL
HAPPY

FROM
MY
YOU CAN
HOLD
HAPPY
FOR A
LITTLE

ON PAPER?

HOW FOR ME

THIS
IS THE
LOVE
SONGS
OF A
YOUNG
GIRL...



RIGHT NOW?



IT... ENDED...

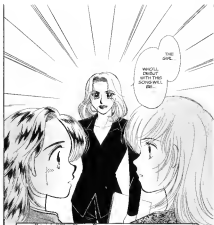


I'M SURPRISED ONE MORE TIME!

OMG!!! I'M COMING DOWN WITH A COLD.











AND THE
JOB OF A
DANGER IS
TO SAVE
HIMSELF



IF YOU
SUDDENLY
CAN'T STAY
ON STRONG,
YOU CAN'T
JUST GET
RESCUED

I'M SORRY...



YOU'RE
RIGHT



I
EXPRESSLY
TOLD YOU TO
STAY AS
THOUGH THIS
WAS A LIFE
CONCERN

WIT...

IT BUT
THAT'S
BECAUSE...

AGE IS
COMING
DOWN
WITH A
COLD AND...

DON'T
SEEM
TO HAVE
THE DARE
TO WIN

YOU...



YOU THOUGHT
IT WAS JUST
A RECORDING
SESSION AND
NOT IMPORTANT

NO IT'S
BECAUSE...



ILL BE
ROOTING
FOR YOU
BROTHER!

BUT ILL DO
MY BEST AS A
SINGLE! GAMES
TOO!

OHAYO!

LET'S
MEET
AGAIN BY
CHANCE!



OHAYO..



OH OHAYO!

ILL HAVE
YOU ARE
IN THAT
VIDEO AS
A SPECIAL
GUEST!

HERE'S YOUR
SCHEDULE
NEXT WEEK!
YOU'LL RECORD
THE SINGLE!

AFTER THAT
THERE'LL BE A
PROMOTIONAL
VIDEO SHOOT
IN CHINA!



THERE'S NO
NEED FOR
YOU TO COME
TO TODAY!

UNTIL THEN
CONTINUE
YOUR REGULAR
LESSONS BY
CHANCE.



WHY
NOT?

LEAVE
DON'T DELAY
BEFORE
YOU DO!

AND YOU'VE
WORKED SO
HARD TO GET
HERE!

ARE...







SHE WANTED
YOU TO JOIN THE
ORDER OF A PRO-
FESSORIAL
...
ISN'T THAT
RIGHT?"



WHY DO
YOU THINK
WE'LL TRAVEL
WITH SO
HAPPY WITH
YOU?"

ARE?"



IT'LL
BE
O.K.



JUST



YOU'LL
HAVE
ANOTHER
CHANCE?

SO
DON'T
GIVE
UP.

REALLY?



I KNOW IT
WAS MY
FAULT...

AND
BECAUSE
I DON'T
EVERYTHING

BUT
STILL,
I WANTED
TO FORGET...

BA
W
W
W

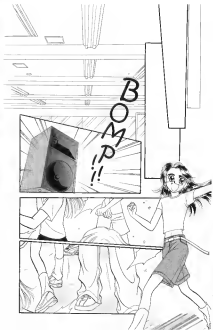


I DON'T GIVE UP!
EVERY
IT'S STUNNABLE...

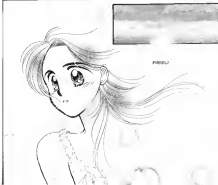
CURRY
TO LESSON
TO LESSON

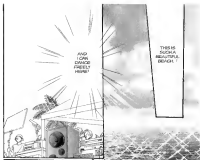
LET'S
GO!











THIS IS
SOOHA
BEAUTIFUL
DANCE!



DANCE
TO THE
SOUND
OF MY
FEET
AND ELECTRIC!



SPASH!





WE'LL
MEET
AGAIN,
AKI!



EXCUSE
ME!



AND WE
SAID
THAT
I
DON'T
WANT
A
TOUR!
HAY!

SO I'M
TELLING
YOU FOR
TOUR!



YOU'VE
ENJOYED
WE DO
MUCH!

LIKE THE
JOY OF
DISCOVERING



THANK
YOU SO
MUCH,
AKI!



AND
TO HAVE
DISCOVERING

I WANT
TO DRINK
UP TO
YOU!



OH, MY
GOD!
WATCH
OVER
ME
FOR
EVER!

I'LL NEVER
FORGET
NO ONE
DID
I'LL BE AS
GOOD AS
GONE!



NOT DOUBT
THAT HAVE
YOU SO
FRUSTRATED
YOU JUST
WASH ONE
UP"

PRETTY
UNPREPARED
FOR A NEW
ARTIST



YOUR
REAL,
WAND
NEW
ARTIST
AT NO.1



SURE I'M
FRUS-
TRATED..



I'M FRUS-
TRATED..

THAT I
BLEW
MY BIG
CHANCE.

BUT NOT
BECAUSE
OF MYO.
BECAUSE
OF
MYSELF!



I
JUST
GOT
HERE
BUT..

OVERALL,
IT'S
NOT
HERE
IN
OSAKA..



HEEEY!



SINGLE
BEST
100

DID YOU
SEE..
THAT?



TO
USE
YOU

STOP
WITH THE
TY SHOT
HERE.
WHY DID
YOU
COME
HERE..



LIVE!



THE RECORDING COMPANY HAD TELEPHONED MY MOTHER.

CONRAD WASN'T SO CUTE?

AND
NOT?

ALIX

ON THIS
MATTER ONLY

IF YOU KNOW
WHO SHE IS
PLEASE
CONTACT US
IMMEDIATELY

WHAT'S
UP WITH
HER?

HE
COULDN'T
REALLY HAVE
COME JUST
TO SEE
ME...



AND
HEY MAN
TALKED
ABOUT
VIDEO

MUSIC
STORE

PICK UP

WE SAID
THAT SHE
WASN'T HAD
A PHONE LIKE
A JACKSON
MOBILE

THE BEASTFUL
REPTILE GIRL
WHO DANCES
AND SINGS

WHO KE KE
EVERYONE
WAS TO
begin

AND THERE'S
ANOTHER
WOMAN
WHO'S
WAS IN THE
TALK OF THE
TOWN







"YOU'RE
COMING FROM
FLUFFY, RIGHT?"







THERE'S NO
NEED FOR YOU
TO COME TO
TOROY!



LATE, THEN,
CONTINUE
YOUR PRESENT
LESSONS IN
CHINA.



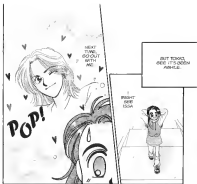
IT'S
BEEN
TWO
MONTHS.

















I ONLY
KNOW ONE
PERSON LIKE
THAT.



AND THAT
PERSON'S
NAME IS...



THE ONE
STUDIOS WANT
SOMEONE THEY
CAN DISCOVER
AND NURTURE.

NOT
SOMEONE
WHO HIDES
THEIR TALENT
GOD IS BUILT
IN SOME
WORLD.



SOMEONE
WHO PEOPLE
JUST NATURALLY
LIKE.



YOU'RE
THE ONE
PERSON
I DON'T
WANT TO
MEET.

OH
REAR?



WASHER
CARRY?

HEY
EVERYONE!
HERE I AM.



DID YOU
KNOW WHAT KIND
OF STAR PEOPLE
WANT?

HUH?



WHAT IS
GOING
ON...?

SILENT!

SO WHAT IS
WITH THE
FACE, HUH??



SHOCK!

...BUT SHOW
BUSINESS IS
NO PLACE FOR
A GIRL LIKE YOU!

IF YOU
WANT TO
QUIT IT'S
YOUR CALL.



ARE
YOU SURE?



NO WE
DON'T
GET IT IN
CHINA.

YOU
KNOW
THE TV
SHOW
CALLED
"MUSIC
STREET"?

IT'S A
POPULAR
SHOW WITH
A MASS
AUDIENCE.

AND YOU'RE
ALL THEY TALK
ABOUT ON THE
SHOW. THE GIRL
DANCING IN THE
BACKGROUND OF
THEIR MUSIC VIDEO.

EVERYONE
TALKS
ABOUT
YOU!

TOTALLY
AMAZING!!

HOW
DUMB HE
HE! CAN SAY
ALL HIS THOUGHTS
WITH THAT
SERIOUS FACE.
BUT HE CAN'T
POOD.
HE!

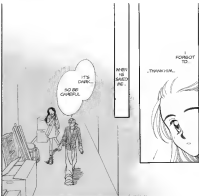


F
W
O
O
D
H
O
O
D
!!

I
HAVE
DISCOVERED
OUT AND
VERY
CARE
DO NOT
HURRY!

WHY
DO YOU
HAVE
TO SAY
THAT
STUPID
THING!!





I FORGOT TO...

...THANK HIM.



WANT
TODAY
BUT
EVENT...?

PLEASE,
CONFESS
EVEN!!

THE
PRESS-
CONFERENCE
HAS STARTED
ALREADY
SO.

OH, IS
THAT...?

WHEN
YOU'RE
DONE
WITH
MARCH
UP
AND
DOWN
IS
WAIT
HERE
AND
I'LL
COME
GET
YOU

LINE-UP





AND NOW

FOOSH



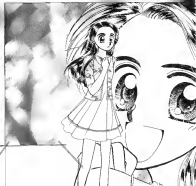
WHAT DOES HE
MEAN,
AND A
MAY
HAPPY??

WHAT IS
GOING
DOWN??



HERE IS
A SPECIAL
ANNOUNCEMENT

AND SO
MOVING ON

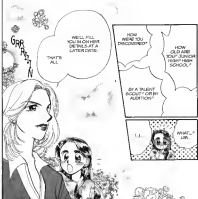


AIRI
OSHIMIZU



MAY I INTRODUCE
THE NEWCOMER
WHOM I'LL BE
PRODUCING
THIS SUMMER.





WE'LL FILL YOU IN ON MORE DETAILS AT A LATER DATE.

THAT'S ALL.

HOW WERE YOU DISCOVERED?

HOW OLD ARE YOU? JUNIOR HIGH? HIGH SCHOOL?

BY A TALENT AGENT? OR BY AUDITION?

U... WHAT? UH...



ARE THERE JUST A FEW MORE RECORDS?

WHEAT? A MINUTE!

COME ON.

LET'S GO.

HESIT? NO FEAR!



14-02077



COULD YOU TELL US HOW YOUR RECORDS ARE?

IT'S THE BEST FROM THE VIDEO!

WHEAT?

WHEAT? NO FEAR!

LET'S GO RECORDING WITH US!



I, I CAN
FINALLY
MAKE A
RECORD!!



LET
SOMEBODY
SUGGEST
YOU'RE
TAKE A
BATH



CONVINCING!

THAT'S
RIGHT
AND
YOUR
DEBUT
HAS
BEEN
SET!



I'M
NOT
DREAMING.



THAT'S
WHY
I
BELIEVE
IN
YOU!

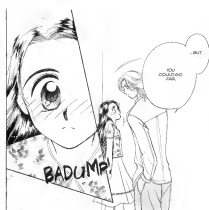


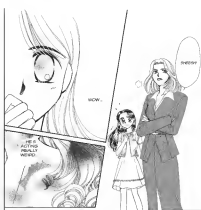
YOU'LL
CHANGE
THE
FACE
OF
THE
JAPANESE
ENTERTAINMENT
WORLD

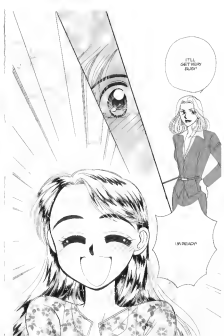












LIFE
AND
ADDA

I
HAVE
A PHOTO
SHOOT AT
3 TODAY.

SPECIAL
CLASS
STUDENTS.
COME ON
IN. WE'RE
STARTING!

LIFE

FOR IT

OH-OH
YOU HAVE
TO GO IN
CLASS FOR
A WHILE
BEFORE
THE
SHOOT?

ALL
RIGHT.
SO WILL
YOU BE
SHOPPING
TODAY?
BEFORE
THE
LESSON?

ADD

WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?

OH-OH,
WHAT
SHOULD
I DO? WHAT
DO I DO
TODAY?
AGAIN?



ACTORS

WE
WERE SO
SUSPENDED

CHATTER
CHATTER

ADD ADD
I SAW YOU ON TV!
CONGRATULATIONS!

HOW
BRIGHT
IS THAT?

CONGRATULATIONS!



HEY!

YOU'RE
SURPRISING

EVERY
ONE'S
SO
SAD!

OH,
OH-OH
WHAT
FOR
YOU?







RELAX, JUNE

RELAX



FLASH

RECORDING

HE HE
AND GO...



LIVEN
UP...

EVERY
NOTE
IS A
DON'T
WEAR
IT



FINISH
IT'S OVER



AND I HAVE
TO LEARN THE
KONDO FOR
THE CONDO...

OH,
THEN WHY DON'T
YOU STUDY THE
LORDS?



LET ME
SLEEP A
LITTLE
MORE



IS THAT
VIB. WHAT
DID I DO
WRONG?



BE CAREFUL
NOT TO
SCUFFLE
HERE!
THEN
CAREFULLY
HERE!











SHE
SAID
THAT."

I'M SURE
JUST LAST WED. SOME
BOYFRIEND TOOK THEM
AND DOWN SHE SAW THAT
SHE WAS TAKING HER
PREGNANCY."

I'M
DOING
THE BEST
I CAN.

WHY
WOULDN'T
SHE
TELL ME
ANYTHING?"

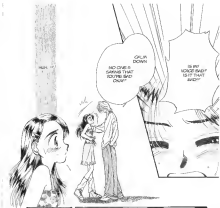
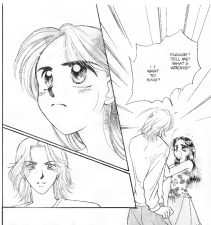
I HAVE
NO IDEA
ABOUT
YOU
DO?"



WHY DID
YOU BOTH
HAVE TO
DO SUCH
INCREDIBLE
THINGS?"

NO
"WHAT?"
YOU STUPID
BOTH!"

HABBY
WHAT
THE...





IT'S
NOT MY
CURRENTLY

FROM
WHAT
YOU'RE
DOING
NOW

IF

IT'S
PROBABLY
WAY
AHEAD
OF
YOUR
LINE
THAT

YOUR
STYLE
OF
DRESSING
IS
JUST
THE
SAME.
BUT

YOU
FIGURE
IT
OUT
YOURSELF

WHAT'S
THAT
SUPPOSED
TO
MEAN?
WHAT
DID
HE
THINK
TO
TELL
ME?

WHAT



BT...

THIS
ISN'T
RIGHT

FEELS LIKE
MY HEART
IS BEING
SQUEEZED.

WOW,
WHAT'S
THIS...?
FOR
SOMEONE
THEY'RE
SO BIG

OH

REALLY?

STOP

YOU'RE
DOING
IT
WRONG

YOU HAVE NO FEEL
NO GOOD GOOD GOOD
NO GOOD NO GOOD-GOOD
EVER ANSWERED ANY

THEN
SHOULD
I READ IT
LIKE THIS?

WAIT!
HOW I
SING

11





THE FIRST PART
OF THE SEASON 3 JUST
BEGUN
THE CLAY PART
WITH COLLEENNY THE
SLAY



OH, UM
MR. DAVIS...



NO!

IT'S NOT
MY SECRET
YET?







SO BE
SOMEONE...

BECAUSE
THAT'S THE
ONLY WAY TO
SUCCEED!

NEET
FOLLOWING
YOUR DREAM
ISN'T
AWE.

HUH!

THERE'S
NOT ANYTHING
IF YOU DON'T
LOOK UPWARD
YOURSELF...

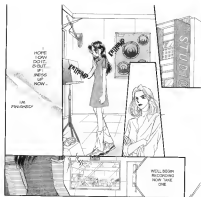
THAT'S
NOT IT AND
THEIR
WOULDN'T
EXPLAIN IT

YOU
FIGURE
IT
OUT
ON
YOUR
OWN

I
HAD
TO
LOOK
UPWARD
ON
MY
OWN...

ARE
YOU...?

ARE...





HEY!

WHY SO SAD THERE?

ARE, DIDN'T I ASK YOU TO SMILE THE "I LOVE YOU MORE" SMILE GENUINELY?

ARE I BECAUSE...

I WANTED TO SHOW HER LONGING FOR YOU



OH...

WASH



HOOLAH? ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT?

ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT?

ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT?

ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT?

ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT?



TOKYO



SINGLE'S CORNER

KATHUMP

KATHUMP

GOING TO!

YOUR CD RELEASE DATE.

YOUR VIDEO... I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THEM.

SINGH

NOBODY HAS IT

IS THIS
WHAT IT'S
LIKE FOR
A NEW
ARTIST?



THAT'S
MEAN
CONFUSING
AND

WE
WANT
TO
GET
ALONG
WITH
YOU

MAKING
THAT
ONLY
RELEASED
IS CORRECT



GLOOOOM

I WONDER
IF MY CD WAS
FINALLY
RELEASED...



OH,
THAT
ONE...



WELL, DO
YOU HAVE
ANY THINGS
THAT ARE
"RELEASED"?



WELL, I-LET'S
JUST GO
ON TO
THE
OFFICE
CHECK
UP

EXCUSE
ME



NOISE
HERE...

NOISE



LOOK
LOOK



CURRENT RELEASES



GOT TO

LET'S ALSO
LOOK AT
OTHER
STORIES

THEY
MIGHT
HAVE IT

AT
LEAST
ONE...

MY
LUCK?



ILLUSTRATION GALLERY



I LOVE OKINAWA SO MUCH AT THE TIME, I HAD NO IDEA THAT B.B. EXPLOSION WOULD END UP BEING SUCH A LONG SERIES. (JUNE 1997)

HERE COMES
THE B.B. EXPLOSION
SPECIAL FEATURE, WITH
COMMENTS FROM
VALU EMMA!!





MYNARD ISLAND IS SO BEAUTIFUL IN THE SUMMERTIME. I'D LIKE TO GO BACK SOMETIME SOON. BEHIND ARII ARE SUGARCANE FIELDS (OCTOBER 1997)



I DREW THIS RIGHT AFTER THE DA PUMP SINGLE CAME OUT. I WAS TOTALLY IN TO IT! (SEPTEMBER 1997)



I LOVE PERFUME. AIRI'S IMAGE HERE IS INSPIRED BY DOLCE & GABBANA. ACTUALLY, AFTER I DREW THIS, AIRI TOLD ME SHE LIKES ENVY (APRIL 1998)



SINCE IT WAS CHRISTMAS, I TRIED TO DRAW IN A HUSHED STYLE, AND SINCE I LOVE THE COLOR BLUE, I PAINTED AIRI'S EYES AND HAIR BLUE (DECEMBER 1997)

WHEN I WAS
DRAWING THIS, MY
ENTIRE BODY
ACHED FROM THE
FLU. I ONLY SUR-
VIVED BECAUSE A
PARADE OF
FRIENDS CAME TO
LOOK IN ON ME.
SERIOUSLY, I WAS
IN TEARS
LOOKING AT THIS
BRANDS BACK
MEMORIES
(JUNE 1998)





I LIKE SEEING HOW A DRAWING CHANGES WHEN IT BECOMES COVER ART. HERE'S ONE OF MY ILLUSTRATIONS BEFORE THE ADDITION OF TEXT AND COVER LOGO. (DECEMBER 1998)



IT'S JUNE, SO RAIN. PRETTY SIMPLE. (JUNE 1998)



DID YOU HAVE ANY FAVORITES? (JANUARY 1993)



SPECIAL THANKS! TELL, GUS, SCH-CHAN TO KOBORI-SAN YOSHINO-CHAN, HIRAE-CHAN (PLEASE SAY HI TO YAGAMI-SAN) HIROKUCHI-CHAN SOUL PERMAN.

B.B. Explosion™

Since enrolling in the Okinawa Actors School, Airi has been working overtime trying to improve her singing and dancing skills. And now, finally, the world is starting to take notice.

Having won a gig as a dancer in a hit music video, she has unknowingly become a celebrity in Tokyo. When she arrives in the big city, she is mobbed by fans who are desperate to catch a glimpse of her.

All this attention is nice, but being a dancer in someone else's video isn't Airi's ultimate goal. She wants to be a star. And to that end, she's been booked into the studio to record her first song. The time is right. Airi is ready to rock the world!



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from right to left.



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